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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Dean A. Gallo
U.S. House of Representatives
2447 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gallo:

This is in reply to your letter of February 10, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

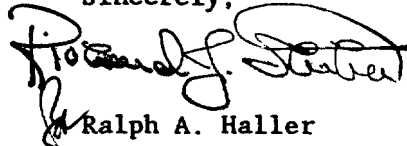
Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituents' concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituents to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Order
Discussion paper

cc:
Chief, PRBureau
Chief, LM&M Divison
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

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LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
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TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Dean Gallo	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRE/4mm			
5-17-93			
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REMARKS:

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DEAN A. GALLO
11TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

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February 10, 1993

Mr. James Quello
Interim Chairman, F.C.C.
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

A significant number of my constituents have contacted my office to express their opposition to FCC Docket No. 92-235, which they feel would greatly reduce the usability of frequencies in the 72-76 MHz band currently assigned for general public use.

I share their concern with proposals to further limit public access to frequencies that have traditionally been available for general use.

With this letter, I am expressing to you as Interim Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, my constituents' opposition, as well as my own, to proposals limiting frequency use, and am requesting a response to our concerns.

Public access to radio frequencies has always been an important part of U.S. communications policy and should remain as such.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Dean Gallo

DEAN A. GALLO
Member of Congress

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